

PTO/SB/06A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of 12

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/026,137
Filing Date	December 18, 2001
First Named Inventor	Viken, James P.
Art Unit	3745
Examiner Name	Verdier, Chris
Attorney Docket Number	23,318-40

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	US	4,610,326	09/09/1986	Anderson	
	US	4,702,511	10/27/1987	Olins	
	US	4,748,508	01/12/1988	Torvela	
	US	4,732,332	03/22/1988	Schitemaker	
	US	4,770,430	09/13/1988	Lange	
	US	4,772,249	09/20/1988	Kouno, et al.	
	US	4,793,581	12/27/1988	Burda	
	US	4,886,087	12/05/1989	Kopf	
	US	4,940,106	07/10/1990	Matsunaga, et al.	
	US	3,932,991	01/20/1976	Clerk	
	US	3,939,666	02/24/1976	Goldstein	
	US	3,953,081	04/27/1976	King	
	US	3,964,262	06/22/1976	Patton	
	US	4,102,534	01/08/1980	Snyder	
	US	4,293,051	10/06/1984	Nishikawa	
	US	4,310,063	01/12/1982	Nishikawa	
	US	4,352,780	10/05/1982	Schick	
	US	4,334,422	10/19/1982	Nishikawa, et al.	
	US	4,363,427	12/14/1982	Grosby	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			

Examiner Signature	Verdier	Date Considered	5-12-04
--------------------	---------	-----------------	---------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 608. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

\* Not considered under me 1.97(d)

PAGE 16/27 \* RCVD AT 4/26/2004 4:06:01 PM (Eastern Daylight Time) \* SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/6 \* DNIS:8729306 \* CSID:6123991836 \* DURATION (mm:ss):12:26